November 10, 2016

Perioperative Nurse Week

November 6-12, 2016

November 6-12, 2016 is Perioperative Nurse Week, when those in the profession renew their commitment to patient advocacy and safe patient care as directed by the Association of Perioperative Registered Nurses. Perioperative registered nurses provide specialized nursing care to surgical patients before, during and after surgery.

The Surgical Services Department at Bartlett Regional Hospital is comprised of 34 staff; 16 are Registered Nurses. “I am very proud of the dedication and professionalism of our perioperative team” said Director of Surgical Services Sherri O’Connor, RN. “We at Bartlett Regional Hospital are committed to promoting excellence in the delivery of safe patient care, this includes pre-admissions testing, pre-operative holding, intraoperative and recovery phases of care. Our team advocates for patients when they are most vulnerable.”

According to the Association of perioperative Nurses, “If you or someone you love has had a surgical procedure, a perioperative registered nurse was directly responsible for you or your loved one’s well-being throughout the operation. While all of the other medical professionals in the room, including the surgeon, anesthesia provider, surgical assistant and other assistive personnel, are focused on their specific duty, the perioperative registered nurse focuses on the patient for the duration of the procedure.”

Please join Bartlett Regional Hospital in celebrating perioperative nurses and their dedication to safe patient care for 2016 Perioperative Nurse Week.

Did you get your annual flu vaccination?

MHU also achieved 100% Vaccination screening and administration/documentation for their patients in the month of October. This is an amazing accomplishment. Really, everyone has done an incredible job. CCU has only missed one patient! And after a rough start and missing a handful of patients in the very first days of flu season, OB and M/S have been achieving 100% nearly every week since.

TJC reported their overall hospitals average was 93% last year. Our goal at BRH is to top that and get to at least 95%. We are well on our way. Keep up the good work BRH nursing!

Great job RRC and MHU! Your hard work paid off- you both hit 90%! Way to go.

-Kim Vermedal, Infection Preventionist
Inpatient Flu Vaccination

WHAT? Influenza Immunization or “IMM-2” is a Quality Reporting measure that we submit to Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services (CMS) and The Joint Commission (TJC). The rate is part of a calculation that determines hospital Annual Payment Update from CMS and also the rate is publicly reported. Specifically, this measure looks at inpatients age 6 months and older to see if we screened them for Influenza Vaccination eligibility. The patient ‘passes’ the measure if they meet one of the following criteria:

- Patients who received the influenza vaccine during this inpatient hospitalization
- Patients who received the influenza vaccine during the current year’s flu season but prior to the current hospitalization
- Patients who were offered and declined the influenza vaccine
- Patients who have an allergy/sensitivity to the influenza vaccine, anaphylactic latex allergy or anaphylactic allergy to eggs, or for whom the vaccine is not likely to be effective because of bone marrow transplant within the past 6 months, or history of Guillian-Barre Syndrome within 6 weeks after a previous influenza vaccination

WHY? Up to 1 in 5 people in the United States get influenza every season (CDC, Key Facts). Each year an average of approximately 226,000 people in the US are hospitalized with complications from influenza and between 3,000 and 49,000 die from the disease and its complications (Thompson WW, JAMA). The influenza vaccination is the most effective method for preventing influenza virus infection and its potentially severe complications.

United Way Campaign 2016

The United Way of Southeast Alaska has launched its annual Fall Giving Campaign. Last year Bartlett Regional Hospital employees pledged $9,464.00, a record amount. We would like to provide Bartlett employees with the opportunity to participate in this campaign once again. United Way of Southeast Alaska partners with 35 health and human service based non-profit agencies across the region to ensure that the thousands of people who live and work in Southeast have the ability to lead a successful life.

United Way operates via donations made through payroll deductions. United Way not only supports partner agencies but engages proactively in the community as well. The Learn United Reading Tutors program expanded from one to three elementary schools in 2015.

The United Way also joined forces with local food pantries and nonprofit agencies that utilize donated food, and with the Southeast Alaska Food Bank to identify a solution to streamline food donations for greatest impact. The Food Resources Group came out of this effort, ensuring that those engaged in addressing food insecurity are doing so with a collaborative, proactive, maximum-benefit approach.

If any of this has inspired you to consider giving again this year, simply click the link below to access the payroll deduction form which makes giving even easier.

https://www.unitedwayseak.org/civicrm/event/info?id=27&reset=1

-Sara Truitt, Resource Development Director, United Way Southeast Alaska

United Way can provide a presentation about its work and the Campaign upon request. Call Resource Development Director Sara Truitt at 907-463-5530 to schedule a presentation and answer questions. Thank you to everyone for considering this worthwhile cause!
HELP is Available

Now that the 2016 Presidential Election has ended, many of you may have deep feelings about the results.

I wanted to take this time to remind you that Bartlett has a FREE and CONFIDENTIAL Employee Assistance Program for all employees (regardless of status).

Please consider calling if you feel this would be beneficial for you. Your personal information is not shared with anyone.

ComPsych Guidance Resources 800.295.9059 toll free

Please let me know if you have any questions or need additional information.

Thanks,

Kelly Mercer
Human Resources Manager

Certification Pay – Deadline Reminder

Do you plan on submitting a certification for bonus pay? Deadline to get a copy to HR is December 31.

Certification Pay details can be found in the Union contract and we also honor it for non-union employees:

11.13 Certification Pay. In recognition of excellence in their respective specialties, annually, on the first pay period in February, the Hospital shall, according to the following schedule, pay a bonus to any employee who has worked 312 or more hours within the previous calendar year (excluding temporary employees), and who currently holds certification based on the following minimum criteria described below as determined by the panel.

- Examination by the certifying body of a nationally recognized job related specialty organization
- Certification expenses are borne by individual
- Certification is not required by current job description
- Certification as a result of basic education for the job does not qualify
- Changes in certification pay eligibility will be affected by Federal & State law and regulatory agencies
- The certification must be periodically renewed

A five member panel including two Union employees will be appointed to determine whether the certification meets the above criteria. Each year new certifications and those which have changed status will be considered by the panel. In order to receive this bonus, the employee shall provide to the Hospital a copy of certification prior to January 1st of the first year holding such certification and then only after renewals. This annual certification shall be paid to the employee for the respective length of certification.

First Certification - $400.00
Second Certification - $350.00
Third Certification - $250.00

Reminder: RN Licensing Renewal
This is a reminded for all Registered Nurses that license renewal is due by 11/30. If you have not already done so, please renew your license and provide a copy to HR.

**Use that Personal Leave!**

Have you been a full or part-time employee since January 1?

If so, do you plan on using at least 120 hours (pro-rated for part-time) of personal leave by December 31?

Make your plans now or talk to your supervisor!

**Performance Evaluation Time!**

2016 Performance Evaluations are updated and assigned in Taleo with a completion due date **no later than** November 30th.

**Fleece Vests** – Fall is in the air! HR has cozy bright blue vests for only $10 each. We have a variety of sizes available (S-3XL).

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**Regional Hospital, Quality in Community Health Care vest.**

**Payroll Alert $$$**

API – Special Codes

Special Codes in API are used to initiate special pay. The following codes must be used on your in AND out clockings.

The three Special Codes listed below are the ones that are missed most often, and have to be added by the payroll department.

If you are scheduled for a SCHED Orient shift, use the ORIENT special code on your clockings.

If you are scheduled for a SCHED Ext+ shift for an Extra shift with less than 7 days notice, use the +EX+ special code on your clockings.

If you are scheduled for a SCHED Ext shift for an Extra shift, use the EXTRA special code on your clockings.

If special codes are not used properly, it is possible that your pay will be calculated incorrectly.

As always, contact Tracy in the payroll department at 796-8457 if you have questions or concerns about your API timecard.

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**Remembering Passed Colleagues**

**Michael Orazio**

by Pete Morrissette

Bartlett lost a former staff member and beloved colleague when Michael Orazio passed away in Juneau on October 10th.

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Stay Warm and Represen! 

*Human Resources Technician Rick Morrison models a Bartlett Fleece Vest.*

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Mike was born in Alaska in 1948 and grew up in Oregon and Washington, eventually graduating from Astoria High School. He served his country with honor in Vietnam, then returned to spend the next 30 years in a dangerous profession he nonetheless loved: logging. At the same time he was logging, Mike single-parented his kids in rainy Southeast Alaska. While logging in Hoonah, Mike met his wife Karen when his kids were mostly grown, and two families were joined together. Mike became Dad and Grandpa to Karen’s kids, a role he loved.

When the timber industry began to dry up Mike’s family encouraged him for several years to go back to school for computers. After practically living for 4 years in the computer lab at University of Alaska Fairbanks, Mike was incredibly proud to graduate with a Bachelor’s degree in Computer science at the age of 53.

In 2006, Mike joined Bartlett Information Systems, his first and only desk job in his life. He looked slightly nervous his first day but fit right in with the rest of the crew who loved technology and problem solving.

I was fortunate enough to have the same job title as Mike, Microcomputer-Network Support Specialist, and together the two of us made a great team. The hospital was a much smaller place...
when Mike first started. Together we populated the new and remodeled wings with computers we had built and loaded with software. We lifted new switches and servers into place, cabled new communications rooms, populated mesh wireless access points throughout the facility. There was an enormous technology expansion at Bartlett and Mike was there working hard and loving every second of it.

In addition to being an incredibly hard worker, Mike was very social and loved coming to work every day to see and to serve the Bartlett staff. I texted him after he left in 2015 and asked “How’s retirement? Wish you still worked with us.” He texted back “Truthfully, it sucks. Wish I still worked there, too”.

Though Mike is somewhere else now, technology he put in place is still working at Bartlett. Computers are still humming away on desktops, signals are still being transmitted through cabling he installed. Mike’s years of hard work lives on at Bartlett, and so too does his kindness and humanity in our hearts forever.

Funny Mike Story: Mike was a hilarious guy so it’s hard to pick just one. When Information Systems staff meetings went on too long and conversations got either too long-winded or too intense Mike would smile and hold up his legal pad he brought to meetings so everyone could see it. In large capital letters he wrote: BREAKFAST. Everyone would crack up, the mood would shift completely, and Mike looked satisfied. Maybe you had to be there for that one, but just remember that a logger’s favorite meal is breakfast.

*If you have a funny story about Mike please bring it by Information Systems as our hearts are still heavy with the recent loss of our friend.*

![Joan Elizabeth Trimble](image)

## Joan Elizabeth Trimble (1943 - 2016)

Long-time Juneau resident, Joan Elizabeth Trimble, died September 25, 2016, at Providence Hospital in Anchorage, Alaska.

Joan was born July 7, 1943 in Portland, Maine and moved to Juneau in January 1977, with her two small children. She met her husband George in the winter of 1977 while square dancing and they married in June 1982. Joan and George have been married for 34 years.

She began a career with the State of Alaska in 1977 and retired as Secretary for the Commissioner of the Department of Labor in 1998. Juneau was her home for 39 years.

Joan’s friends learned early on that her two deepest loves were of the Lord and her family. Joan was a long-time member of Juneau Church of the Nazarene, teaching first- and second-graders about Christ’s love for them for 23 years and where she had the honor of being lovingly known as "The Gum Lady." *For the past 15 years, Joan cleaned the church each week and volunteered two mornings a week at the Bartlett Regional Hospital gift shop.* She enjoyed playing cards and board games, brightly painted toenails, and watching Jeopardy. Mostly, Joan loved helping others as well as generously and selflessly sharing her heart and her time with countless people. She displayed an attitude that there really are no strangers...only friends she hadn’t met yet.
Halloween 2016

Amidst a silent drum roll, Wizard of Food Services and Nutrition Felipe C. Ogoy bestows awards for the top winners of the 2016 Pumpkin Carving Contest. Great job Food Services.

1st Place: Operating Room
2nd Place: Food and Nutrition Services
3rd Place: Physical Therapy

October 31 is the one day of the year you can be somebody else. Congrats HIM on your pizza party prize winning portrayal of The Eighties! Thanks to the Employee Engagement Committee for organizing. Here’s a selection of shots. For the Facebook album version, please see the Bartlett Regional Hospital Facebook page.